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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/791,029	03/02/2004	Jay S. Walker	03-013	1254

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EXAMINER

SKAARUP, JASON M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3714

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/791,029

Applicant(s)

WALKER ET AL.

Examiner

Jason Skaarup

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 05/17/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The Examiner considered the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) submitted on May 17, 2004. The Examiner notes that Kaminkow (U.S. Patent 6,695,696) and Cannon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,766,074) are included on both the IDS and the attached Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) since both Kaminkow and Cannon et al. are used to reject claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12-17, 19, 21, 23-28, 30, 32 and 35-37 in this Action.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Paragraph [0046] includes the word "Bluetooth™" which appears to be a typographical error. Applicant might consider amending the specification to recite the word "Bluetooth™" as recited in paragraph [0052] as a replacement for the word "Bluetooth™". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 34 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 34 recites the phrase "why a an outcome" which appears to be a typographical error. Applicant might consider amending claim 34 to recite the phrase "why an outcome" as a replacement for the phrase "why a an outcome". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12-17, 19, 21, 23-28, 30, 32 and 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kaminkow (U.S. Patent No. 6,695,696).

Kaminkow discloses a slot machine in Figures 1 and 2 (along with the related description thereof) as claimed in claims 1-6, 8 and 10, which comprises a processor (38), a first display (28) coupled to the processor (38) and operable to display a plurality of outcomes (paylines shown in Figures 6A through 6J along with the related description thereof), and a second display (32) coupled to the processor (38) and operable to display a representation of outcomes (paylines shown in Figures 6A through 6J along with the related description thereof).

Regarding claim 1, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions and wherein the set of reel positions of each outcome is each displayed disposed along a straight line without crossing any other displayed line of reel positions (col. 11, lines 31-67 and Figures 6A through 6I along with the related description thereof, wherein winning outcomes are displayed alone, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 2, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions, wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that the set of reel positions overlap each other (Figure 6J along with the related description thereof), wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed without overlapping any other set of symbols or any other displayed outcome representation (col. 11, lines 31-67, wherein winning outcomes are displayed alone, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 3, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions, wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that the set of reel positions of each outcome shares at least one reel position of at least one other outcome (Figures 6G and 6H along with the related description thereof), wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed separately from any other displayed outcome representation (col. 11, lines 31-67, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 4, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions disposed along a payline, wherein each reel position

includes at least one symbol, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that each of the paylines cross at least one other payline (Figures 6A through 6J along with the related description thereof), wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols along a payline, wherein the set of symbols of each outcomes includes at least one symbol from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed without the payline of any set of symbols crossing any other payline of another set of symbols of any other displayed outcome (col. 11, lines 31-67 and Figures 6A through 6I along with the related description thereof, wherein winning outcomes are displayed alone, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 5, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine wherein the set of symbols displayed on the second display are disposed along a linear payline (Figures 6A through 6C along with the related description thereof).

Regarding claim 6, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine wherein the second display further displays an indication of which outcomes are winning outcomes (col. 11, lines 31-67).

Regarding claim 8, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine wherein the second display further displays an indication of outcomes upon which a wager was placed (col. 11, lines 31-67).

Regarding claim 10, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine wherein the second display only displays winning outcomes (col. 11, lines 31-67).

Additionally, Kaminkow discloses a method as claimed in claims 12-17, 19 and 21, which comprises displaying a plurality of outcomes on a first display (28) and displaying a representation of outcomes on a second display (32). See Figure 1 along with the related description thereof.

Regarding claim 12, Kaminkow discloses a method wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions and wherein the set of reel positions of each outcome is each displayed disposed along a straight line without crossing any other displayed line of reel positions (col. 11, lines 31-67 and Figures 6A through 6I along with the related description thereof, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 13, Kaminkow discloses a method wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions, wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that the set of reel positions overlap each other (Figure 6J along with the related description thereof), wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed without overlapping any other set of symbols or any other displayed outcome representation (col. 11, lines 31-67, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 14, Kaminkow discloses a method wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions, wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol,

wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that the set of reel positions of each outcome shares at least one reel position of at least one other outcome (Figures 6G and 6H along with the related description thereof), wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed separately from any other displayed outcome representation (col. 11, lines 31-67, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 15, Kaminkow discloses a method wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions disposed along a payline, wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that each of the paylines cross at least one other payline (Figures 6A through 6J along with the related description thereof), wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols along a payline, wherein the set of symbols of each outcomes includes at least one symbol from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed without the payline of any set of symbols crossing any other payline of another set of symbols of any other displayed outcome (col. 11, lines 31-67 and Figures 6A through 6I along with the related description thereof, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 16, Kaminkow discloses a method wherein the set of symbols displayed on the second display are disposed along a linear payline (Figures 6A through 6C along with the related description thereof).

Regarding claim 17, Kaminkow discloses a method that includes further displaying an indication of which outcomes are winning outcomes (col. 11, lines 31-67).

Regarding claim 19, Kaminkow discloses a method that includes further displaying an indication of outcomes upon which a wager was placed (col. 11, lines 31-67).

Regarding claim 21, Kaminkow discloses a method wherein only winning outcomes are displayed on the second display (col. 11, lines 31-67).

Further, Kaminkow discloses a supplemental display for a slot machine as claimed in claims 23-28, 30 and 32, which comprises an interface for communicating with a slot machine and a display screen (32) coupled to the interface. See Figure 2 along with the related description thereof, wherein a display (32) couples to a processor (38) of a slot machine (10) shown in Figure 1.

Regarding claim 23, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine display that displays a plurality of outcomes, wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions, wherein the display is operable to display a representation of the outcomes and wherein the set of reel positions of each outcome is each displayed disposed along a straight line without crossing any other displayed line of reel positions (col. 11, lines 31-67 and Figures 6A through 6I along with the related description thereof, wherein winning

outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 24, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine display that displays a plurality of outcomes, wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions, wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that the set of reel positions overlap each other (Figure 6J along with the related description thereof), wherein the display is operable to display a representation of the outcomes, wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed without overlapping any other set of symbols or any other displayed outcome representation (col. 11, lines 31-67, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 25, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine display that displays a plurality of outcomes, wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions, wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that the set of reel positions of each outcome shares at least one reel position of at least one other outcome (Figures 6G and 6H along with the related description thereof), wherein the display is operable to display a representation of the outcomes, wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed separately from any other displayed outcome representation (col.

11, lines 31-67, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 26, Kaminkow discloses a slot machine display that displays a plurality of outcomes, wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions disposed along a payline, wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that each of the paylines cross at least one other payline (Figures 6A through 6J along with the related description thereof), wherein the display is operable to display a representation of the outcomes, wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols along a payline, wherein the set of symbols of each outcomes includes at least one symbol from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed without the payline of any set of symbols crossing any other payline of another set of symbols of any other displayed outcome (col. 11, lines 31-67 and Figures 6A through 6I along with the related description thereof, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Regarding claim 27, Kaminkow discloses a display wherein the set of symbols displayed on the second display are disposed along a linear payline (Figures 6A through 6C along with the related description thereof).

Regarding claim 28, Kaminkow discloses a display that further displays an indication of which outcomes are winning outcomes (col. 11, lines 31-67).

Regarding claim 30, Kaminkow discloses a display that further displays an indication of outcomes upon which a wager was placed (col. 11, lines 31-67).

Regarding claim 32, Kaminkow discloses a display that displays only winning outcomes (col. 11, lines 31-67).

Further, Kaminkow discloses an apparatus as claimed in claim 35, which comprises:

- means for executing instructions (38);

- means for displaying a plurality of outcomes (28) coupled to the means for executing instructions (38), wherein each outcome includes a set of outcome elements (Figures 6A through 6J along with the related description thereof); and

- means for displaying a representation of the outcomes (32) coupled to the means for executing instructions (38), wherein the set of outcome elements of each outcome is each displayed disposed along a straight line without crossing any other displayed line of outcome elements (col. 11, lines 31-67 and Figures 6A through 6I along with the related description thereof, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Further, Kaminkow discloses an apparatus as claimed in claim 36, which comprises:

- means for executing instructions (38);

- means for displaying a plurality of outcomes (28) coupled to the means for executing instructions (38), wherein each outcome includes a set of outcome positions,

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each outcome position including at least one outcome element, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that the set of outcome positions overlap each other (Figure 6J along with the related description thereof); and

means for displaying a representation of the outcomes (32) coupled to the means for executing instructions (38), wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of outcome elements from the set of outcome positions of each outcome, and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed without overlapping any other set of outcome elements of any other displayed outcome representation (col. 11, lines 31-67, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

Finally, Kaminkow discloses a gaming device as claimed in claim 37, which comprises:

a processor (38);

a first display (28) coupled to the processor (38) and operable to display a plurality of outcomes, wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions disposed along a payline, wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol, wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that each of the paylines intersect at least one other payline. (Figures 6A through 6J along with the related description thereof); and

a second display (32) coupled to the processor (38) and operable to display a representation of outcomes, wherein each outcome is displayed as a set of symbols along a payline, wherein the set of symbols of each outcomes includes at least one

symbol from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed without the payline of any set of symbols intersecting any other payline of another set of symbols of any other displayed outcome (col. 11, lines 31-67 and Figures 6A through 6I along with the related description thereof, wherein winning outcomes are displayed along, separately and in series before displaying an accumulation of each of the winning outcomes at once).

6. Claims 1-8, 11-19, 22-30, 33 and 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Singer et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0192431).

Singer et al. disclose a gaming system in Figures 1A, 1B and 5A through 8B (along with the related description thereof) including a slot machine as claimed in claims 1-4, a method as claimed in claims 12-15; a supplemental display as claimed in claims 23-26 and a gaming device as claimed in claims 35-37. The disclosed system comprises a processor (12), a first display (16) coupled to the processor (12) and operable to display a plurality of outcomes (paylines shown in Figures 1B and 5A through 8B along with the related description thereof), and a second display (18) coupled to the processor (12) and operable to display a representation of outcomes (paylines shown in Figures 1B and 5A through 8B along with the related description thereof). The first display (16) displays a plurality of outcomes, wherein each outcome includes a set of reel positions disposed along a payline (52), wherein each reel position includes at least one symbol (paragraph [0049]), wherein the plurality of outcomes are displayed in a manner such that each of the paylines cross at least one other payline

(paragraphs [0093] and [0099]). The second display (18) displays each outcome as a set of symbols along a payline, wherein the set of symbols of each outcomes includes at least one symbol from the set of reel positions of each outcome and wherein the representation of each of the plurality of outcomes is displayed without the payline of any set of symbols crossing any other payline of another set of symbols of any other displayed outcome (paylines shown in Figures 1B and 5A through 8B along with the related description thereof and paragraphs [0093] and [0099]).

Regarding claims 5, 16 and 27, Singer et al. disclose that the set of symbols are displayed disposed along a linear payline (Figures 1B and 5A through 8B along with the related description thereof).

Regarding claims 6, 17 and 28, Singer et al. disclose that an indication of which outcomes are winning outcomes is displayed (Figures 5B and 7 along with the related description thereof, wherein winning outcomes are displayed on reel set displays 200c, 200d and 200e).

Regarding claims 7, 18 and 29, Singer et al. disclose that an indication of which outcomes are non-winning outcomes is displayed (Figures 5B and 7 along with the related description thereof, wherein non-winning outcomes are displayed on reel set displays 200a and 200b).

Regarding claims 8, 19 and 30, Singer et al. disclose that an indication of outcomes upon which a wager was placed is displayed (Figures 5B and 7 along with the related description thereof, wherein number of paylines display 210 and payline display

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212 indicate the number of paylines dictate the number of displayed reel set displays 200a, 200b, 200c, 200d and 200e).

Regarding claims 11, 22 and 33, Singer et al. disclose that winning outcomes are separately displayed from non-winning outcomes (Figures 5B and 7 along with the related description thereof, wherein winning and non-winning outcomes are separately displayed on reel set displays 200a, 200b, 200c, 200d and 200e). Further, Singer et al. disclose that the reel set displays 200a, 200b, 200c, 200d and 200e can be positioned in any position on the display screen (paragraph [0076]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 7, 11, 18, 22, 29 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaminkow in view of Cannon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,766,074).

Kaminkow teaches a slot machine, method and supplemental display as detailed above with respect to claims 1, 12 and 23, respectively. However, Kaminkow does not explicitly teach displaying an indication of which outcomes are non-winning outcomes as recited in claims 7, 18 and 29 and displaying winning outcomes separately from non-winning outcomes as recited in claims 11, 22 and 33. In a related gaming device, Cannon et al. teach a slot machine (Figure 1) that displays an indication of which

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outcomes are non-winning outcomes as recited in claims 7, 18 and 29 and displaying winning outcomes separately from non-winning outcomes as recited in claims 11, 22 and 33 (Figure 8 along with the related description thereof). Cannon et al. teach that the slot machine distinguishes between winning and non-winning outcomes to allow a player to determine winning and non-winning games quickly, thereby increasing player excitement (col. 2, lines 17-31). It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the display of Kaminkow to indicate non-winning outcomes on a display and to display non-winning outcomes separately from winning outcomes as taught by Cannon et al. in order to distinguish winning outcomes from non-winning outcomes and increase player excitement as desirably taught by Cannon et al. at col. 2, lines 17-31.

9. Claims 9, 20 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaminkow in view of Falconer (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0060268).

Kaminkow teaches a slot machine and display as detailed above with respect to claims 4 and 26, respectively. However, Kaminkow does not explicitly teach displaying an indication of a payout amount per each outcome that would have been won had a wager been placed upon each outcome. In a related gaming device, Falconer teaches a slot machine having multiple displays 30, 32 (Figure 1B). The slot machine displays paylines not chosen by the player in order to increase player excitement by providing the player with information (payout amounts) on paylines not wagered on by the player that would have been won had the player wagered on the not chosen paylines (see paragraph [0045]). It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of

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the invention to modify the display of Kaminkow to display an indication of a payout amount per each outcome that would have been won had a wager been placed upon each outcome as taught by Falconer in order to increase player excitement as desirably taught by Falconer in paragraph [0045].

10. Claims 9, 20 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singer et al. in view of Falconer.

Singer et al. teach a slot machine and display as detailed above with respect to claims 4 and 26, respectively. Specifically, Singer et al. teach displaying an indication of a payout amount per each outcome that was won upon a wager being placed on each outcome (Figures 5B through 8B along with the related description thereof). However, Singer et al. does not explicitly teach displaying an indication of a payout amount per each outcome that would have been won had a wager been placed upon each outcome. In a related gaming device, Falconer teaches a slot machine having multiple displays 30, 32 (Figure 1B). The slot machine displays paylines not chosen by the player in order to increase player excitement by providing the player with information (payout amounts) on paylines not wagered on by the player that would have been won had the player wagered on the not chosen paylines (see paragraph [0045]). It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the display of Singer et al. to display paylines not wagered on by the player as taught by Falconer in order to increase player excitement as desirably taught by Falconer in paragraph [0045].

11. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaminkow in view of Benbrahim (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0186736).

Kaminkow teaches a display as detailed above with respect to claim 26. However, Kaminkow does not explicitly teach displaying an explanation of why an outcome is a winning outcome or a non-winning outcome. In a related gaming device, Benbrahim teaches a slot machine that allows a player to play multiple paylines simultaneously (Figure 8 along with the related description thereof). An explanation of why an outcome is a winning outcome or a non-winning outcome is displayed on display screen 450 (Figure 8) to help clarify winning outcomes and non-winning outcomes to players requiring assistance to decipher winning outcomes and payout totals (paragraphs [0003] and [0055]). It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the display of Kaminkow to display an explanation of why an outcome is a winning outcome or a non-winning outcome as taught by Benbrahim in order to clarify winning outcomes and non-winning outcomes to players as desirably taught by Benbrahim in paragraph [0003].

12. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singer et al. in view of Benbrahim.

Singer et al. teach a display as detailed above with respect to claim 26, wherein winning and non-winning outcomes are separately displayed to clarify winning outcomes and non-winning outcomes to players (Figures 5B through 8B along with the related description thereof). However, Singer et al. does not explicitly teach displaying an explanation of why an outcome is a winning outcome or a non-winning outcome. In

a related gaming device, Benbrahim teaches a slot machine that allows a player to play multiple paylines simultaneously (Figure 8 along with the related description thereof).

An explanation of why an outcome is a winning outcome or a non-winning outcome is displayed on display screen 450 (Figure 8) to help clarify winning outcomes and non-winning outcomes to players requiring assistance to decipher winning outcomes and payout totals (paragraphs [0003] and [0055]). It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the display of Singer et al. to further display an explanation of why an outcome is a winning outcome or a non-winning outcome as taught by Benbrahim in order to further clarify winning outcomes and non-winning outcomes to players as desirably taught by Benbrahim in paragraph [0003].

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure and is listed on the attached Notice of References Cited (PTO-892). Of particular note, Falciglia, Sr. (U.S. Patent No. 6,585,587) discloses an explanation of pays banner (64a, 64b, 64c) on a gaming machine of Figure 4 and Meyer (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0092487) discloses sequentially identifying paylines on a display without making the display cluttered or confusing for the player (Abstract along with Figure 3).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Jason Skaarup whose telephone number is 571-272-4455. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (10:00-8:00).

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached at 571-272-4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Banks', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

DERRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700